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Sen. Van Woerkom receives Literacy Advocate Award, and plans reading time with local schoolchildren

LANSING — Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores, has received the 2006 Literacy Advocate Award for his support of Michigan's Free Book Program, demonstrating the former educator's commitment to reading.

The Public Enrichment Foundation, which gave the award to the senator, supports the free book program. The program provides free books and educational material to disadvantaged children and adults.

"I'm honored to receive this award for supporting and promoting literacy," Van Woerkom said. "Nothing helps young people succeed in their education more than being successful and avid readers."

Additionally, Van Woerkom announced he has scheduled reading times on Friday, March 24, to schoolchildren as another way to promote literacy and reading to youth:

- 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
West Shore Lutheran School
3225 Roosevelt Road
Muskegon
- 10:20 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.
St. Michael school
215 W. Dale
Muskegon

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